MARVEL

41

WOLVERINE® ORIGINS

WAY
EATON
HENNESSY
TROY

©2011 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved.

WWW.MARVEL.COM

WOLVERINE
ORIGINS

The mutant Wolverine has spent a century fighting those who would manipulate him for his unique powers—razor-sharp claws, heightened senses, and a healing factor capable of miracles. After repeated brainwashing, torture, and reprogramming, Wolverine's past was as much a mystery to him as to anyone. With those long-lost memories returned to him, Wolverine has set out on a mission to punish the conspirators who have wronged him.

Now, Logan has finally caught up with the mysterious figure known only as Romulus, the man that has been secretly manipulating him his entire life. Over the course of the epic battle that ensued, Logan learned that Romulus's grand scheme was for Logan and Daken—Logan's dangerously misguided son—to fight to the death, determining who would take Romulus's place at the top of the food chain. But Logan knows that even if he kills Romulus now, he will be playing into Romulus's ultimate plan... and Daken will inevitably come for him, forcing Logan to kill his own son. The only answer to the problem as Logan sees it is to let Romulus live until he can figure out a solution. But the minute Logan's back is turned, Romulus knocks him unconscious and disappears.

DANIEL WAY
WRITER

DOUG BRAITHWAITE
PENCILS

BILL REINHOLD
INKS AND WASHES

ANDY TROY
COLORS

VC's CORY PETIT
LETTERS & PRODUCTION

DOUG BRAITHWAITE
COVER ART

JODY LEHEUP
ASSISTANT EDITOR

JEANINE SCHAEFER AND JOHN BARBER
EDITORS

AXEL ALONSO
GROUP EDITOR

JOE QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

ALAN FINE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

© 2011 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

To find MARVEL COMICS at a local comic and hobby shop, go to www.comicshoplocator.com or call 1-888-COMICBOOK.

AIN'T NO OTHER WAY TO SAY IT.

I GOT MY ASS KICKED.

IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE.

HE'D SEE IT COMIN' AN' HE'D USE IT *AGAINST* ME. HE'D USE IT FOR HIMSELF.

JUST LIKE HE'S BEEN DOIN' SINCE THE DAY I GOT MY MEMORIES BACK.

ROMULUS WANTS AN HEIR TO HIS THRONE. AT THIS POINT, THERE ARE ONLY TWO CONTENDERS--*ME* AN' *DAKEN*. MY *SON*.

ROMULUS KNOWS ME TOO WELL--HE *MADE* ME. ANYTHING I CAN COME UP WITH, EVERY PLAN OF ATTACK I'D USE, IS *PLAIN AS DAY* TO HIM.

I DON'T WANT IT. DAKEN DOES. BUT TO *GET* IT, HE'S GOTTA GO THROUGH *ME*. I DON'T WANT *THAT*, EITHER.

ONLY WAY TO RESOLVE THIS *AIN'T* BY DOIN' WHAT *I* WANNA DO--WHICH IS *DESTROYIN' ROMULUS*--BUT BY DOIN' THE ONE THING HE'LL NEVER EXPECT:

I'M GONNA DESTROY THE *THRONE*.

AN' THE REASON HE'LL NEVER EXPECT IT?

THIS AIN'T *MY* PLAN.

MET WITH A FELLA A FEW DAYS AGO, ASKED HIM WHAT I'D HAVE TO DO TO GET THE JOB DONE. HE GAVE ME AN ANSWER. CAN'T SAY IT MADE MUCH SENSE TO ME, BUT THAT'S THE *POINT.*

ALL I GOTTA DO IS PUT THE PIECES IN PLACE...

...STARTIN' *HERE.*

BRUCE.

CAME TO ASK YA A *FAVOR.*

7 THE HARD WAY PART ONE

IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO SELL SOME *SCRAP*, YOU'LL HAVE TO COME BACK DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS AND SPEAK WITH *MR. BARRINGTON*. I'M JUST THE TEMPORARY *NIGHT WATCHMAN* HERE.

IF IT'S *PARTS* YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, WE CAN PROBABLY WORK SOMETHING OUT. BUT IF YOU NEED ME TO *PULL* THEM FOR YOU, THERE'S A MINIMUM CHARGE OF *TWENTY DOLLARS*.

I'M ALSO AVAILABLE FOR *PHYSICS TUTORING*. USUALLY, I ONLY DO THAT ONLINE BUT, IN *YOUR* CASE, I'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION.

I CHARGE SIXTY DOLLARS PER ONE-HOUR SESSION-- WHICH IS *EXTREMELY REASONABLE*, GIVEN MY RESUMÉ.

I'M LOOKIN' FER SOMETHIN' *ELSE*.

"SOMETHING"...?

OR SOMEONE?

THAT PART OF MY LIFE IS *OVER*, LOGAN.

DEAD.

DON'T JERK ME AROUND, BANNER. MUCH LIKE YERSELF, I AIN'T EXACTLY KNOWN FER MY *PATIENCE*.

BUT YOU *ARE* KNOWN FOR YOUR EXCELLENT *HEARING*, MAKING IT KIND OF IRONIC THAT I'M HAVING TO REPEAT MYSELF.

OR MAYBE I JUST NEED TO *SIMPLIFY* IT FOR YOU?

NO MORE HULK.

NO MORE SMASH.

SMAKK!

BUDDY...

BULL.

YEAH.

I HAVE.

...YOU'VE JUST ONE MADE ONE *HELL* OF A BIG MISTAKE.

AN' IT'S ABOUT TO GIMME A *FORD TAURUS* FER A *TOMBSTONE.*

HRAAA!

KRUNCH!

KAROOOOOMMMM

WHAT THE--?!

WOLVERINE, I BELIEVE YOU REMEMBER *SKAAR.*

MY SON.

HNGH!

WRAKK!

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ASK ME TO STOP?

BEG ME NOT TO KILL THIS LITTLE RAT?

NO.

KRANNCH!

AND YOU *CAN'T* KILL HIM.

IS THAT A *CHALLENGE?*

FER GOD'S SAKE, BRUCE...

...WHAT'D I EVER DO TO *DESERVE--*

KROM

OH.

YEAH.

HOW...?

HIS SKELETON IS BONDED WITH *ADAMANTIUM*--IT'S *UNBREAKABLE.*

EVEN BY *OUR* STANDARDS.

YEAH, IT HURTS.

BUT *MORE'N* THAT...

...IT'S *EMBARRASSIN'.*

VERY SOON, SKAAR IS GOING TO *KICK* YOU.

WHEN YOU REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS, YOU'LL BE IN THE NEXT STATE OVER--AND YOU'LL HAVE FORGOTTEN BOTH *HOW* AND *WHERE* YOU FOUND US.

IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?

LAYIN' LOW, HUH?

YES.

HOPIN' TO KEEP YER *SON* FROM GETTIN' SUCKED INTO THE SAME NIGHTMARE *YOU* WERE LIVIN'?

YES.

WELL, BRUCE, MIGHT SURPRISE YA TO KNOW...

...THAT I'M DOIN' *THE SAME DAMN THING.*

GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.

WELL, LEAST HE DIDN'T...

KICK MY *ASS*...

THE NEXT DAY;
IN THE NEXT STATE OVER:

YOU GOT IT?

YEAH, THE PROPERTY LINE FALLS JUST TO THE WEST OF THAT BIG...

SPRUCE TREE...

PAUL, DOES YOUR CELL PHONE WORK OUT HERE?

YEAH... WHY?

I NEED YOU TO CALL 911.

OH, #@$*...

DAD, ARE YOU HAVIN' ANOTHER *HEART ATTACK*?!

RELAX, SON. NO.

IT AIN'T FOR ME.

"911 OPERATOR-- WHAT IS YOUR EMERGENCY?"

"UHH...YOU MAY NOT *BELIEVE* THIS..."

MAN...

UNNGH...

...I CAN'T %@#?*$ BELIEVE THIS.

SNIKT!

ONE... TWO...

CHOK!

KRAK!

GAAAAHH--!

...BUT *THIS* IS GONNA HURT *WORSE.*

THAT HURT...

K-KRAK!

WRUNCH!

HRRNN...

DAD, DON'T--!

WHOA, BUDDY... TAKE IT EASY.

YOU'RE A MUTANT.

GOT A...

...PROBLEM WITH THAT?

FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, YOU'RE THE ONE WITH THE PROBLEM, NOT ME.

GOOD POINT...

MAN, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? DID YOU, LIKE, FALL OUT OF A PLANE OR SOMETHING?

...WHO THE HELL FALLS OUT OF A PLANE?

HEY, MAN-- I'M TRYIN' TO HELP YOU! SO DROP THE ATTITUDE, OKAY?

WHO DID YOU CALL?

WHO DID I--? I CALLED 911, MAN!

WELL, CALL 'EM BACK AN' TELL 'EM IT WAS A FALSE ALARM OR SOMETHIN'. I DON'T NEED NO AMBULANCE.

ALL I NEED IS SOME CLEAN WATER TO FLUSH THIS OUT...

...AN' A PLACE TO REST UP FOR A FEW HOURS? MAYBE SOMETHIN' TO EAT?

SURE.

WHAT?!

DAD, C'MON--YOU DON'T KNOW WHO OR...OR WHAT THIS GUY EVEN IS!

SURE I DO.

HE'S A FELLA THAT'S HURT.

"...AND WHAT DOES THIS MUTANT LOOK LIKE?"

"HE'S A WHITE GUY. SHORT. AN' REALLY HAIRY."

FBI FIELD OFFICE, SEATTLE:

AN' HE HAS THESE...THESE METAL CLAWS.

FBI

LISTEN, EVER SINCE MY MOM DIED AND MY DAD HAD HIS HEART ATTACK, HE'S BEEN ACTIN' KINDA...LOOK, I JUST DON'T WANT HIM TO GET HURT, Y'KNOW?

DON'T WORRY...

...YOU DID THE RIGHT THING.

YEAH, BECAUSE...LIKE, THIS GUY IS DANGEROUS--I CAN TELL. WHEN HE WAKES UP, THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT HE'LL--

YES!

EXCUSE ME?

WOULD YOU HOLD THE LINE, PLEASE? THANKS.

"HELLO, IS THIS--"

"WHO YOU WANT TO TALK TO...?"

...YES, I AM.

OH. UH... GOOD.

SO, MY OLD *PARTNER* TOLD ME THAT IF I EVER HAD ANYTHING JUICY ON A MUTANT NAMED *WOLVERINE*, THAT I SHOULD PASS IT ALONG VIA THIS *NUMBER* THAT HE GAVE ME...

...AND THAT YOU'D, Y'KNOW, *TAKE CARE* OF ME.

OH, *I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU*, AGENT BARTHOLOMEW...YOU CAN REST ASSURED OF THAT.

HOW'D YOU KNOW MY--?

WHAT IS IT YOU HAVE THAT'S SO... "JUICY"?

"WELL, FOR STARTERS, I KNOW WHERE HE *IS*..."

THIS *PLAN* I'M WORKIN', IT ALL HINGES ON STAYIN' *ONE STEP AHEAD O' ROMULUS*. IF HE FINDS OUT WHO I'VE BEEN TALKIN' TO BEFORE--

SIRENS.

DAMN...

...I'VE BEEN SOLD UP THE RIVER.

WHAT A SHOCKING DEVELOPMENT!

HMM...

MAYBE I WAS *WRONG.*

AN' HERE I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST *MINE...*

MAYBE *ALL* SONS ARE JERKS.

KLAK!

--AN' YOU'RE *CERTAIN* THE GOVERNOR SAID THE WARRANT WOULD HAVE THE RIGHT *TIME OF ISSUE* ON IT?

'S WHAT HE *SAID*--SAID WE'D HAVE A COPY WAITIN' FOR US BACK AT THE POST WHEN WE RETURN WITH OUR *PRISONER.*

THIS *FUGITIVE*... WHAT DO WE *KNOW* ABOUT HIM? AND SHOULDN'T THE FBI BE IN ON THIS?

YOU ASK A LOTTA QUESTIONS, Y'KNOW THAT?

I'M SORRY, BUT...LOOK, THIS IS THE KINDA STUFF THAT CAN GET YOU *KICKED OUTTA THE STATE PATROL*, Y'KNOW?

BY WHO, THE *GOVERNOR?*

LISTEN, KID-- ODDS ARE, THIS IS A *POLITICAL* FAVOR THE GOVERNOR'S DOIN' FOR SOME *OTHER* GREASY POLITICIAN. HELPIN' HIM PULL IT OFF AIN'T GONNA *HURT* YOUR CAREER, IT'S GONNA *HELP* IT. THAT'S HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS.

"FAVORS FOR FAVORS."

THAT'S VERY GOOD NEWS, MR. GOVERNOR.

SLEEP TIGHT.

WHAT IS IT YOU'RE UP TO, WOLVERINE...?

CAN'T JUST SKIN OUTTA HERE-- IF I AIN'T WHERE I'VE BEEN REPORTED TO BE, THEY'LL JUST ARREST THAT KID AN' HIS DAD AN' I CAN'T BE SURE ROMULUS WOULDN'T HAVE 'EM KILLED.

OR TORTURED AN' THEN KILLED.

NO, I GOTTA LET 'EM SEE ME--GIVE 'EM SOMETHIN' TO CHASE.

DOUBT WHOEVER SENT 'EM AFTER ME BOTHERED TO TELL 'EM WHO...

...OR WHAT...

SNIKT!

...I AM, SO...

GET READY FOR THE SURPRISE OF YER LIVES, BOYS.

OH, %@#$ LOOK OUT--!

KKRRRUNNKCCHHH!

WHAT THE--

SO.

--HELL?!

"I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID."

WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP EACH OTHER OUT AFTER ALL.

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT